

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 AID-07 LAB-02 SIL-01 USIA-12 /032 W

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R 011135Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4147

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 0963

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, MP

SUBJECT: STAG LABOR LEADERS: SIGMUND ARYWITZ, BERTRAM MCNAMARA
AND THOMAS TURNER

REF: A) STATE 181218, B) STATE 193654

1. BEFORE SUBMITTING PRELIMINARY PROGRAM PROPOSALS FOR STAGS VISIT, WE HAD WISHED CONSULT MAURITIUS LABOR CONGRESS PRESIDENT SHURMAH JAGDAMBI WHO, UNTIL LATE LAST WEEK WAS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN IMPORTANT LOCAL LABOR NEGOTIATIONS (REF: PORT LOUIS 09555).

2. IN THIS SAME CONNECTION WISH REMIND DEPARTMENT THAT JAGDAMBI HAS BEEN SELECTED AS CANDIDATE BY AFL/CIO TO PARTICIPATE IN AFL/CIO-SPONSORED CONFERENCES, OCTOBER (REF: STATE 152271). THUS, JAGDAMBI MAY HAVE CHANCE MEET ONE OR MORE OF STAGS WHILE HE IN U.S. DURING MONTH OF OCTOBER. HOPE THIS MAY BE POSSIBLE.

3. CONCERNING PROPOSALS FOR STAY IN MAURITIUS, MLC HAS OFFERED TO SPONSOR ONE DAY LABOR SEMINAR AT UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS IN WHICH STAGS MIGHT PARTICIPATE SHOULD ONE OR MORE DESIRE. THIS WOULD BOTH GIVE THEM OPPORTUNITY EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS AND AT SAME TIME MEET MOST PROMINENT MEMBERS MAURITIUS LABOR MOVEMENT. PLEASE ADVISE IF STAGS RECEPTIVE.

4. BELIEVE THAT PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM WOULD ENJOY SEEING U.S. LABOR OFFICIALS FOR COURTESY CALL; THEY MIGHT ALSO EXPECT PAY CALLS ON MINISTER OF LABOR AND SOCIAL SECURITY, AS WELL AS ON HEAD OF MAURITIUS EMPLOYERS FEDERATION.

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5. VISIT TO MAJOR SUGAR FACTORY RECOMMENDED, AS WELL AS POSSIBLE VISIT TO TEA ESTATE. STAGS WOULD LIKELY ALSO APPRECIATE SEEING

WORK BEING DONE THROUGHOUT ISLAND BY COOPERATIVE MOVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND FISHING.

6. THEY COULD PROBABLY INSPECT SEVERAL NEW INDUSTRIES IN EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE.

7. THESE ACTIVITIES WOULD TAKE THEM TO NUMBER OF DIFFERING AREAS IN MAURITIUS, THUS PROVIDING WIDE EXPOSURE TO VARIED ELEMENTS IN THIS SMALL COUNTRY. ANY COMMENTS ON THESE TENTATIVE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

8. WOULD ALSO LIKE KNOW IF STAGS PREFER HOTEL RESERVATIONS IN CENTRAL RESIDENTIAL AREA OR AT BEACH HOTEL. TRAVEL TO CAPITAL IS ABOUT EQUIDISTANT IN EITHER CASE. ALSO, WILL TERMS OF THIS GRANT COVER CAR RENTAL? POST'S OWN TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES EXTREMELY LIMITED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PORTL00963
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PORT LOUIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731059/aaaabroq.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 181218, B) STATE 193654
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11-Dec-2001 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAG LABOR LEADERS: SIGMUND ARYWITZ, BERTRAM MCNAMARA AND THOMAS TURNER
TAGS: OEXC, MP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005